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from 1832 to 1867. There are few traces in these letters of the revolution which the Reform Act of 1832 has been held to have effected. Membership of administrations went almost as exclusively to the aristocracy as it had done before 1832, although both political parties at various times during the first twenty years of the queen's reign had difficulty in recruiting men with sufficient ability for public business to constitute their administrations. At one cabinet crisis, when it appeared that a Tory administration must come in, Derby told the queen that he had not men to form an administration. Yet it seldom seemed to occur to the leaders of either party that the middle-class men who supported them in the House of Commons—men who were accustomed to business—had any claim to cabinet rank. Milner' Gibson and Matthew Baines were of Whig administrations in the latter part of the period to which these letters belong; but only minor offices were assigned them. The great governing classes of English political tradition were still in full undisputed possession of their kingdom in the twenty years over which these letters extend; but the tradition of their ability, disinterestedness and integrity is sadly damaged by the disclosures of these volumes.

These volumes in no sense constitute a biography of Queen Victoria. They are made up entirely of letters and memoranda; but there is an adequate introduction to them, written by the editors with none of the formality that in the past characterized royal memoirs. The chapters are arranged by years. Each is preceded by a summary of the events of the year, written with much care and sufficiently full to meet the needs of most readers of the *Letters*; and in addition there are foot-notes wherever it seemed expedient to elucidate allusions and references in the text. The editing, in a word, is in keeping with the value and dignity of the work; and the framework ranks with that of Morly's *Life of Gladstone*.

The Roman Journals of Ferdinand Gregorovius (1852-1874).

Edited by FRIEDRICH ALTHAUS and translated from the second German edition by Mrs. GUSTAVUS W. HAMILTON. (London: George Bell and Sons. 1907. Pp. xxiv, 473.)

It is unfortunate that so interesting a diary as that kept by Gregorovius during the period which produced his masterpiece, the *History of the City of Rome in the Middle Ages*, should have been so carelessly edited, both in the original German editions of 1892 and 1893, in the Italian translation of 1895 and in this belated English translation of 1907. The gross carelessness in the spelling of proper names, which characterized the German editions, has marred in even greater degree the volume of Mrs. Hamilton, whose ignorance of historical events in modern Italy has also allowed her to fall into unpardonable errors of translation. Thus she designates Atto Vannucci as *Vannuccio*, makes Persano block the French fleet instead of the Neapolitan harbor of

Gaeta in 1861 (p. 122) and places the Italian annexation of Venice, resulting from the Italo-Prussian alliance, in the conditional instead of in the past tense in a journal entry of 1867 (p. 278).

The student of Gregorovius's works will probably be disappointed in the contents of the *Roman Journals*. They give little detail upon the subjects of Gregorovius's medieval studies. Observations upon the state of the different archives in which he worked are scattered here and there, and many dates of the completion of chapters and the despatch of proof to Stuttgart are given, but the diary of this distinctly human historian relates rather to the history that was being made from day to day in Italy and Germany, than to the history which he was himself reconstructing in the archives. For Gregorovius the present served as a commentary upon the past, but it was more; in it was unfolding the sacred struggle for independence and unity in the two countries which he most loved, and his *Journals* are primarily a record of his interest and acute observations in the progress of these two great movements. He loved the Italy of his day, and he understood her as few Germans have done. "I regard the independence of Italy as a sacred national right", he wrote in 1859, "and if every Austrian were my brother, would myself urge the Italians to drive him out." His statements of historical fact recorded from day to day are untrustworthy, except for events of which he was himself an eye-witness, as those of Rome during the Garibaldian expedition of 1867—and these are important; but it is frequently of interest to know the reports of Italian affairs, though false, that were current, particularly in Rome, where most of his life was spent from 1852 to 1874. The annexation of Rome in 1870 was a bitter disappointment to him; the city seemed to lose its cosmopolitan, republican atmosphere as she "sank into becoming the capital of the Italians". Also in these later years Germanism showed a distinct revival in him; after the Prussian victories of 1866, and especially after those of 1870, an unfortunate sense of German superiority frequently manifests itself in his pages, reflecting diminished sympathy for Italy and understanding of her struggles, and foreshadowing the historian's return to the fatherland. But the sincerity of the *Journals* is illustrated by these changes of feeling and of perception. Statements were not altered when they were disproved by subsequent events, and recorded impressions were not altered when in the writer's mind they were supplanted; Gregorovius's views as they were written down from day to day have been faithfully preserved.

H. NELSON GAY.

Contemporary France (1870-1900). By GABRIEL HANOTAUX.

Translated from the French. Volume III., 1874-1877. (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1907. Pp. ix, 634.)

THIS entire work, so far as published, and this volume in particular might be cited as a strong argument for the thesis, sometimes put for-